

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 07889 231110Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00

FCC-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 OC-06 ICA-20 COME-00 BIB-01

/074 W

-----086566 231536Z /75

R 231059Z MAY 78

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9979

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

UNCLAS GENEVA 07889

E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS: ETEL, ITU

SUBJECT: TRANSATLANTIC CABLE: TAT 7

1. IN THE COURSE OF THE ITU ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING, SEVERAL WESTERN EUROPEAN DELEGATES HAVE USED THE OCCASION TO REITERATE THEIR CONCERN ABOUT THE DECISION OF THE FCC ON THE TRANSATLANTIC CABLE TAT 7. DESPITE EXPLANATIONS MADE BY OUR EMBASSIES IN KEY CAPITALS, REGARDING THE BASIS FOR THE FCC DECISION AND THE LEGAL SITUATION REGARDING ABILITY OF THE FCC TO UNDERTAKE CONSULTATIONS IN AN EX-PARTE SITUATION, EUROPEANS APPEAR BAFFLED BY INABILITY OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO BE AT ALL RESPONSIVE TO THEIR CONCERNS.

2. SWEDISH DELEGATE HAS GIVEN USDEL TO ADMIN COUNCIL COPY OF TELEX FROM LARSSON DATED MAY 12 SENT TO CHAIRMAN FERRIS OF FCC IN WHICH THEY RESPOND TO FERRIS LETTER OF 28 FEBRUARY, CHARACTERIZING FCC RESPONSE AS "SEVERAL STEPS BACKWARDS". OPERATIVE PART OF LETTER STATES "IF IT WILL HELP TO BRING ABOUT THE NEEDED DEGREE OF FLEXIBILITY INTO OUR AFFAIRS, CLTA IS PREPARED YET AGAIN UNCLASSIFIED

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TO MEET WITH THE COMMISSION. WE INVITE YOU AND YOUR FELLOW COMMISSIONERS TO SUCH A MEETING IN EUROPE WITHOUT DELAY -ALTHOUGH WE ARE PREPARED TO COME TO THE UNITED STATES IF IT WILL HELP TO HASTEN THE MATTER AT THIS STAGE, TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE."

3. IN COMMENTING ON THE NATURE OF THE CONSULTATIONS

DESIRED, THE EUROPEANS STATE THAT THEY BELIEVE THAT
"BEFORE RESUMING ROUTINE CONSULTATIVE ACTIVITIES, THERE
MUST BE A FUNDAMENTAL REVIEW BY THE COMMISSION, TELE-
GLOBE AND CLTA JOINTLY OF THE OBJECTIVES, CONTEXT,
SCOPE AND FORM OF THE CONSULTATIVE PROCESS. OTHERWISE
WE RISK A STERILE OPERATION FROM 1978 ONWARDS AS WE HAVE
EXPERIENCED UP TO 1977."

4. EUROPEANS HAVE SENT COPIES OF THE FOREGOING LETTER
TO EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND DEPARTMENT OF
COMMERCE FOR THE NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION AGENCY. COPY OF TELEX BEING POUCHED BY
OPEN AIR MAIL.

5. SWEDISH DEL HAS INFORMED USDEL THAT CEPT COUNTRIES
WILL BE MEETING IN STOCKHOLM LATER IN MAY TO DEVELOP
SPECIFIC PROPOSALS FOR CONSULTATIONS WITH U.S. OFFICIALS,
LOOKING TOWARD A MEETING WITH FCC IN JUNE, POSSIBLY IN
PARIS. EUROPEAN DELEGATES HAVE ALSO ASKED USDEL FOR
INFORMATION REGARDING STATUS OF FCC REVIEW OF TAT 7
GUIDELINES AND WHEN THEY MIGHT EXPECT RESPONSE TO THEIR
PROPOSALS. VANDEN HEUVEL

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Disposition Event:
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TAGS: ETEL, US, ITU, FCC
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